

MINK

Ten mink farms in Washington produced 97,500 pelts in 2004, up 3 percent from 2003. By color class, 43.1 percent of the pelts produced were Black, 41.0 percent of the pelts were Blue Iris, and the remainder were Demi-Wild, Mahogany or

something else. The average price per mink pelt is not estimated at the state level; however, at the U. S. level pelts averaged \$48.40 for the 2004 crop year, 21 percent above the 2003 price of \$40.10. Females bred in 2004, to produce kits, totaled 25,100, up 800 females from the previous year.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class, Washington, 1995-2004 ¹

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total	Number of Operations
	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>Number</i>
1995	67.1	*	25.5	*	12.4	105.0	20
1996	68.0	*	33.0	*	16.0	117.0	19
1997	62.8	*	41.0	*	17.6	121.4	19
1998	57.7	*	59.3	*	25.6	142.6	20
1999	45.0	*	67.9	*	16.3	129.2	18
2000	37.3	*	57.4	*	18.0	112.7	16
2001	35.5	*	63.1	*	14.5	113.1	15
2002	42.6	18.5	48.9	*	*	110.0	15
2003	28.8	13.4	52.4	*	*	94.6	10
2004	42.0	*	40.0	*	*	97.5	10

* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

¹ New color classes starting for 2002 pelts. Black - formerly Standard, included Pure Dark: Demi-Wild-includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff; Blue Iris-formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.

Females Bred to Produce Kits, by Color Class, Washington, 1996-2005 ¹

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
1996	16.4	*	8.2	*	2.9	27.5
1997	17.0	*	10.4	*	3.5	30.9
1998	14.9	*	12.6	*	3.8	31.3
1999	11.8	*	15.1	*	2.7	29.6
2000	9.0	*	14.9	*	2.7	26.6
2001	9.6	2.8	12.7	*	*	25.1
2002	9.3	*	14.5	*	5.1	28.9
2003	7.7	4.3	10.7	*	*	22.9
2004	10.5	2.9	10.9	*	*	24.3
2005	12.4	*	9.3	*	*	25.1

* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Published color classes may not add to State total.

¹ New color classes starting for female mink bred in 2003. Black - formerly Standard, included Pure Dark: Demi-Wild-includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff; Blue Iris-formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.